

PERSIA SUNK IN FIVE MINUTES WITHOUT ANY WARNING GIVEN

ANXIETY OVER PERSIA GROWS IN WASHINGTON

Official Circles Roused when Dispatch Tells of Torpedoing Without Warning and Probable Death of Consul Robert McNeely

SNAP JUDGMENT IS WITHHELD

Charge of Austrian Embassy Says if Austrian Commander Disobeyed His Instructions "Satisfactory Adjustment" Will Follow

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]
WASHINGTON, Jan. 2.—Anxiety over the sinking of the British steamship Persia increased in official circles here today when a consular dispatch brought the information that the ship had been torpedoed without warning and that at least one American citizen, Robert N. McNeely, consul at Aden, Arabia, was missing. At the same time officials were much gratified at the indication, emanating from Baron Erich Zweidinek, charge of the Austro-Hungarian embassy here, that the Vienna government would be quick to "satisfactorily adjust" the matter should it develop that an Austrian submarine commander had disobeyed instructions in regard to torpedoing passenger-carrying ships without warning.

"Judgment should be withheld pending receipt of the facts surrounding the sinking of the steamship Persia," said Baron Zweidinek. "It may have happened in many ways. In the first place, it is not yet proved that a submarine sank the Persia. If it was an Austrian submarine it must be determined whether the circumstances were such as to warrant the action taken."

"I am confident, at least I hope, that the final explanation will be quite satisfactory. The Vienna government of the Austro-Hungarian government will not hesitate to satisfactorily adjust the matter."

From the answer made to the last note on the Arizona alone, it is quite evident that the Austro-Hungarian government will not countenance any act which is wrong.

Complete confidence prevails in Teutonic diplomatic circles that if an Austrian submarine sank the Persia without warning the Vienna government would promptly, reparation made for Americans lost and the submarine commander severely punished.

It is understood that Baron Zweidinek will call upon Secretary Lansing tomorrow for the state department to have included a report of the torpedoing of the British liner Persia, on which an American consul is believed to have been lost. No comment on the news was given out.

The president and Mrs. Wilson are preparing to return to Washington in a few days. They took a long walk and an automobile drive today and Mr. Wilson spent two hours replying to New Year's greetings.

PRESIDENT HEARS OF PERSIA AFFAIR

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]
HOT SPRINGS, Va., Jan. 2.—Dispatches received by President Wilson from the state department today are understood to have included a report of the torpedoing of the British liner Persia, on which an American consul is believed to have been lost. No comment on the news was given out.

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SAYS NO WARNING GIVEN AND NO ATTEMPT MADE TO ASSIST

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]
LONDON, Jan. 2.—The Peninsular and Oriental Steamship Company tonight received the following telegram from Colonel C. C. Bigham, who was among the survivors of the Persia disaster: "A torpedo struck the ship on her port bow at 1:05 o'clock in the afternoon when about forty miles south of the east end of the island of Crete. No warning was given, nor any attempt

UNOFFICIAL DISPATCHES SAY VESSEL WAS TORPEDOED AND SUNK WITHOUT ANY WARNING

(By Republican Associated Press Leased Wire)
LONDON, Jan. 2.—Unofficial dispatches from Cairo state that the British steamship Persia, sunk in the Mediterranean on Thursday, was torpedoed without warning and sank in five minutes.

Between 150 and 160 survivors have been landed at Alexandria, Egypt.

Robert N. McNeely, American consul at Aden, Arabia, is believed to have drowned.

Reuter's Cairo correspondent makes the unreserved statement that Mr. McNeely lost his life. Charles H. Grant of Boston was saved.

Details of Sinking
Details of the sinking of the Persia came in slowly today, but such information as was received made it appear that the number of persons who escaped in the four boats which were put off was larger than was hoped when the first news was received yesterday.

The survivors comprise the chief officer, second officer, seven engineers, 27 seamen, 63 passengers and 29 passengers.

A Lloyd's dispatch gives the number as 154, made up of 59 passengers, of whom 17 are women, and 91 members of the crew, including 35 seamen.

The survivors include military officers and eight persons who were not British subjects.

"The ship was struck amidships on the port side at 1:10 p. m., says Reuter's correspondent at Cairo. 'Significant' disappeared completely by 1:15."

"Survivors say it was little more than a miracle that anyone was saved. There was no panic. Four boats were launched with the utmost promptitude. The captain was drowned. When last seen he was swimming after the liner had plunged beneath the surface."

Both the Peninsular and Oriental company and Reuter's Cairo correspondent say that Mr. Grant had been landed at Alexandria. The steamship company this afternoon had no news of Mr. McNeely's fate.

Edward Rose of Denver left the Persia at Gibraltar, as was reported yesterday.

A dispatch to the Times from Cairo says that two hundred of people were drawn down with the steamer.

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HAS HOOF AND MOUTH DISEASE

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]
SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., Jan. 2.—George Durra, a dairy employee, removed to a local hospital ten days ago for treatment of an affliction of the mouth and throat, has been declared by two physicians to be suffering from a form of the hoof and mouth disease. It became known tonight in a critical condition. He has been fed through a glass tube for two days and cannot talk.

When Durra was removed to the hospital, Doctors Byron Palmer and C. P. Thomas, who have been attending him, diagnosed the case as that of anthrax. The patient failed to respond to their treatment and a further examination was made. Durra then was pronounced as suffering from ulcerated stomatitis, which the two physicians said tonight was a form of the hoof and mouth disease.

An examination of the stock at the dairy ranch where Durra had been employed was completed today by county officials, and it was found that the cattle were in good condition. It was said, however, that Durra had been employed there only a few days before he became ill. It was not known where he formerly was employed.

LAUNCH CALYPSO IS IN CUSTODY OF WAR CRUISER

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]
SAN DIEGO, Jan. 2.—The launch Calypso, which sailed from San Pedro early in the morning of December 27 and the crew of which is sought by the deputy United States marshal at Los Angeles, is in the custody of the Cruiser New Orleans at La Paz, Lower California, according to a radio dispatch received here today from Admiral Winslow.

Admiral Winslow, who is in command of the department of justice at Washington, is reported to have taken up the question of the Calypso's seizure with the navy department with a view to authorizing the commander of the New Orleans to bring the vessel and crew back to the United States.

The Calypso was held at San Pedro under an admiralty writ instituted by the Standard Oil Company and the San Pedro Iron Works when it is alleged, the crew forcibly took possession from the deputy United States marshal and put to sea.

PRODUCES MUCH GOLD IN 1915

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]
WASHINGTON, Jan. 2.—Gold valued at \$98,841,000 was produced during 1915 in the United States, according to a joint announcement today by the director of the mint and the geological survey. Last year the total was \$94,557,800.

Silver production in 1915 amounted to 67,485,600 fine ounces, a reduction compared with 1914 of 4,989,500 fine ounces.

California led in gold production with a value of \$23,005,500. Colorado was a close second with \$22,191,200; Alaska third with \$16,626,700 and Nevada fourth with \$11,114,700. No other state produced more than \$5,000,000.

CONFESSES TEN YEARS OF FRAUD

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]
PORTLAND, Ore., Jan. 2.—George Lee Thorne, who says he was formerly a general in Villa's army in Mexico, confessed today, according to the police that by fraudulent promotion schemes and forgeries he had netted in the last ten years in various cities in this country nearly \$50,000. He was arrested here several days ago on a charge of forgery.

Thorne, a man of numerous aliases, says he was graduated from the Chicago College of Physicians and Surgeons in 1906, having been known there as Edward Heaton. The list made up by the police of cities in which Thorne is said to have operated includes Los Angeles and San Diego.

RUSSIA'S CAMPAIGN IN BESSARABIA IS STILL LEADING WAR ACTIVITY

Over Front of Three Hundred Miles Confident Russian Force Is Hurling Sledgehammer Blows at Opposing Force

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]
LONDON, Jan. 2.—Russia's campaign in Bessarabia continues to be the most important visible war activity. From the Tripoli to the Rumanian frontier, over a front of at least three hundred miles, a huge Russian force with a great appearance of confidence is hurling sledgehammer blows at the opposing force which, according to all accounts, total at least one and a half million men.

Petrograd still claims considerable successes in the early stages of the campaign and dispatches emphasize the excellent equipment, supplies and munitions that Russia laid up for this purpose.

Some London observers, speculating on the meaning of the Bessarabian move, hold it is one of the most ambitious strategic plans since the beginning of hostilities and predict that it will prove a colossal attempt to break the backbone of the Germanic allies' whole line across the Balkans. This one critic says:

"The plan is that Russia and the other allies, moving from different sides, shall meet in the Balkans and gain complete mastery of that peninsula. If they succeed, Turkey will be subdued and the vital of Austria-Hungary menaced."

The Russians have captured the heights northwest of Czernowitz, Bukovina, according to a dispatch to Reuters Telegram company from Petrograd. They took 870 prisoners.

So long as Russia keeps up her present activity just north of the Rumanian border, the attitude of Rumania will continue to grow in importance. There have been many assertions in the entente capitals that Rumania was about to enter the war on the side of the entente allies, but nothing to support this has yet been heard from the Rumanian sources. Meanwhile in the south of the Balkan peninsula the entente allies continue their expectant attitude toward a threatened attack.

London dispatches from English correspondents picture the sinking of the Persia as a particularly aggravating cause, owing to the fact that the ship was not only hit without warning or opportunity for the passengers to escape, but was also hit in a most vital part, so that she sank almost immediately.

For the English cabinet, Wednesday will be a red letter day, for on that day Premier Asquith will introduce a bill to amend the law relating to the capture of ships, and the premier probably never has had a more difficult task than he will have in engineering this measure and his speech in presenting to the parliament is expected to be one of the finest efforts of his career.

A message from Athens to Reuters' Telegraph company says the French battleship Patrie has sailed from Saloniki, having on board the German, Austrian, Turkish and Bulgarian consuls at Saloniki, who were arrested last week at the order of General Sarment. The French commander, the entente powers against the arrested dwellers on the fact that even the Greek government was not advised in advance of the decision to take such a drastic step.

At a cabinet council in Athens on Friday, Premier Skouloufides laid before his colleagues the proposals made collectively by the Austrian, German, Turkish and Bulgarian ministers against the arrest of the consuls. The cabinet discussed at length the recent events at Saloniki, and the correspondent says, it is apparent the situation has become a delicate one which is seriously occupying the attention of the Greek government.

To Advance Into Greece
BERLIN, Jan. 2.—(By London)—The Morgen Post today published a report that orders have been given to the German and Austrian troops in Serbia to advance into Greece and attack the French and British. A Bucharest dispatch to the Morgen Post says that the Greek government was not advised in advance of the decision to take such a drastic step.

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JUSTICE LAMAR IS DEAD AFTER LONG ILLNESS

Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States Succumbs to Malady Diagnosed as Gradual Heart Failure

WAS FIVE YEARS ON THE BENCH

Had Distinction of Being 'One of Few Appointed to High Position by President of an Opposite Political Faith'

WASHINGTON, Jan. 2.—Joseph Tucker Lamar, associate justice of the supreme court of the United States, died at his home here tonight, after an illness of several months. He was 55 years old and had been on the supreme bench five years.

The immediate cause of death was gradual heart failure hastened by inflammation of one of the lungs which had threatened to develop into pneumonia. The attending physician declared, however, that the primary cause was overwork due to the arduous duties of a member of the supreme court and as commissioner of the United States in 1914 to the mediation conference between the United States and Mexico at Niagara Falls.

Exhausted by last year's term of court, Justice Lamar went to White Sulphur Springs, W. Va., in June. He improved until September, when a clot in an artery caused him to lose the use for a time of his left arm and leg. It was sometime before he recovered from this attack.

About a week ago the justice contracted a cold. His weakened heart was unable to bear the added burden of this inflammation.

About nine o'clock this morning his condition was noted to be critical. The system had ceased to throw off the normal poisons. In the afternoon, after re-ventilating his wife and sons, Philip and William, he dropped off to sleep. Gradually his respiration grew less frequent until at 8:30 tonight he gave a long sigh of relief and was dead.

Arrangements for the funeral were not completed tonight, but the burial will take place at Augusta, Georgia, for many years the home of the justice. The funeral party will leave Washington for Augusta Tuesday at 3 p. m.

Had Justice Lamar lived until tomorrow noon he would have completed five years' service on the supreme court bench.

About the time Justice Lamar returned to Washington last fall a move was started to have congress reorganize so as to enable him to retire on full pay. At that time Secretary Lane of the interior department and Solicitor General John W. Davis were mentioned in discussions of his possible successor. It is believed that President Wilson will act at once in filling the vacancy because of the important cases now awaiting consideration before a full court.

Associate Justice Joseph Tucker Lamar had the distinction of being one of the few members of the court appointed by congress regardless of political faith. President Taft appointed him in 1910 with only two precedents for such action, those of Justices Jackson and Linton.

Justice Lamar was born in Rockersville, Elbert county, Ga., October 2, 1860.

(Continued on Page Three)

REPORT SAYS VILLA KILLED BY OWN TROOPS

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]
EL PASO, Jan. 2.—Unconfirmed reports reached here today that General Francisco Villa was killed yesterday by troops commanded by one of his generals, Eduardo Ocaranza, in the Sierra Madre mountains, near Casas Grandes. The reports could not be confirmed by Carranza officials, who declared they had not heard the rumors. It is known, however, that Ocaranza and Villa disagreed concerning the recent attack on Agua Prieta and that Ocaranza was overruled. Carranza was reported near Guaymas on the west coast during Villa's defeat at Hermosillo.

Carranza officials stated today Villa had sought permission to withdraw from Mexico. Through agents it was said Villa had promised to refrain from participation in Mexican politics, and if permitted to travel from the Guerrero district of Western Chihuahua to the border at Columbus, N. M., he would leave for Cuba.

General Alvaro Obregon arrived in Chihuahua city from Juarez early today. United States Consul Marion Latham, who returned from Chihuahua with Obregon, has requested the consulate there.

General Victoriano Huerta, former provisional president of Mexico, who underwent an operation here yesterday, was pronounced in a serious condition tonight by his physician, Dr. M. P. Schuster.

General Huerta, who had been ill for some time with what the physicians described as jaundice, was operated on for gallstones. It was announced after the operation that the physicians found symptoms of a more complicated disease than formerly disclosed and they expressed fear for his recovery.

Huerta had been confined at the Fort Bliss military prison on the charge of conspiracy to start a new revolution in Mexico. Recently the authorities permitted his removal to his home in this city, when he became ill. He apparently recovered and was transferred back to Fort Bliss. Suffering a relapse, he was removed again to his home for the operation.

AKED REJOINS PARTY

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]
COPENHAGEN, (Via London) Jan. 2.—The Rev. Charles F. Aked, who has been suffering from a slight attack of influenza, has rejoined the party.

LID ON GAMBLING EXTENDED TO INCLUDE FIVE OTHER PLACES

The action of Chief of Police George O. Brishols on Saturday night of clamping down tight the lid on eleven places where card games had been permitted, was followed last evening by a further extension of the lid to include five other places where it is alleged gambling has been going on. These were a Mexican resort at Fifth avenue and Grant street, a place on Seventh avenue alleged to have been conducted by a man named Zamiga, an Italian resort at Seventh and Madison street, the Porto Rico

on Jackson street at Second street, and Red's Hall on Fifth street between Madison and Jackson streets. A quiet visit to Chinatown indicated that no big games were in progress and that if there was any gambling in that locality it was so carefully under cover as to make it practically impossible of detection.

Absolute quiet prevailed at the various establishments visited by the chief on Saturday night. One of these made a pretext at card playing but it was a game lacking in spirit and was only for the cigars the loser being expected to buy the smokers for the other participants. The night police were especially vigilant all night, but discovered no instance where it seemed that the orders of the head of the department were being disobeyed.

Mayor Young was especially impressed with the effectiveness of the first night's work of the police department and said last evening that he believed that gambling had been cut out of business here. He said that the chief had all the backing required to carry out the order and that any attempt to resume gambling would meet with speedy prosecution.

Chief Brishols would make no statement yesterday except to say that he had received reports that the chief had carried them out to the best of his ability. That some of the places had not been closed sooner, he said, was due to the fact that he was busy securing evidence against others in order to make a clean sweep.

THREE MAY BE DEAD; TWENTY HURT IN AN APARTMENT HOUSE BLAZE

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]
PHILADELPHIA, Pa., Jan. 2.—Twenty persons were injured, six seriously, two of whom will die, in a fire that destroyed the Bellevue apartment house early tonight. Mrs. Elizabeth Ostum and two children of Mrs. Nellie Burchard are missing and are believed to have been burned to death. Some of the victims were hurt in heroic attempts to save others while many leaped from windows in the upper stories of the building and were more or less seriously injured.

Wilson Gray and his wife, each 30 years old, were caught in their apartments on the fourth floor and were so badly burned that physicians hold out but slight hope for their recovery.

The five-story brick building contained 28 apartments and at the time of the fire about 200 persons were in the structure. The blaze started in a waste paper bin in the basement.

It is believed to have been caused by a lighted cigarette. The financial loss was estimated at about \$100,000.

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